

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A flame retardant silicone composition comprising

(A) 100 parts by weight of an organopolysiloxane having at least one ~~lower~~ alkenyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, in a molecule of the organopolysiloxane, represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R is a lower alkenyl group, R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent hydrocarbon group free of aliphatic unsaturation, "a" is a positive number of 0.0001 to 0.2, "b" is a positive number of 1.7 to 2.2, and the sum of a+b is 1.9 to 2.4,

(B) an organohydrogenpolysiloxane having at least two hydrogen atoms bonded to silicon atoms in a molecule, in an amount to give 0.1 to 5 silicon atom-bonded hydrogen atoms per alkenyl group in component (A),

(C) a platinum catalyst in an amount to give 0.1 to 1,000 ppm of platinum element based on the weight of component (A), and

(D) 0.0001 to 1 part by weight of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of indoline, ~~imidazole~~, ~~indazole~~, benzoxazole, 2-hydroxybenzoxazole, 5-benzyloxyindole, 1,2-benzisoxazole, 2,1-benzisoxazole, and 1,3-benzodioxole.

Claim 2 (Original): The composition of claim 1 wherein components (A) and (B) contain low-molecular-weight cyclic siloxane fractions D_3 to D_{10} in a total amount of up to 1,000 ppm.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising indoline.

Claims 4-5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising benzoxazole.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising 2-hydroxybenzoxazole.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising 5-benzyloxyindole.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising 1,2-benzisoxazole.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 1, comprising ~~2,1-benzioxazole~~ 2,1-benzoxazole.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising 1,3-benzodioxole.

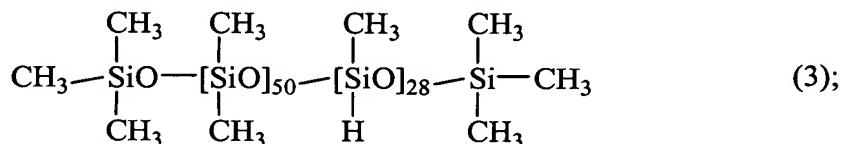
Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the organopolysiloxane having ~~an~~ the at least one ~~lower~~ alkenyl group in a molecule is capped at both ends of its molecular chain with triorganosiloxy groups.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 12, wherein the organopolysiloxane is a straight-chain organopolysiloxane.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the organopolysiloxane is a branched organopolysiloxane.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, comprising:
dimethylpolysiloxane capped with dimethylvinylsiloxy groups at both ends of its molecular chain;

a methylhydrogenpolysiloxane of the following formula (3)



a chloroplatinic acid/vinyl siloxane complex; and
benzoxazole.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A cured transparent and flame retardant composition obtained by curing the composition of Claim 1.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): An integrated circuit covered with a flame retardant composition obtained by curing the composition of Claim 1.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The integrated circuit of Claim 17, wherein the cured composition is in the form of a transparent gel or transparent rubbery product.

Claim 19 (New): A flame retardant silicone composition comprising

(A) 100 parts by weight of an organopolysiloxane having at least one alkenyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, in a molecule of the organopolysiloxane, represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R is a lower alkenyl group, R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent hydrocarbon group free of aliphatic unsaturation, "a" is a positive number of 0.0001 to 0.2, "b" is a positive number of 1.7 to 2.2, and the sum of $a + b$ is 1.9 to 2.4,

(B) an organohydrogenpolysiloxane having at least two hydrogen atoms bonded to silicon atoms in a molecule, in an amount to give 0.1 to 5 silicon atom-bonded hydrogen atoms per alkenyl group in component (A),

(C) a platinum catalyst in an amount to give 0.1 to 1,000 ppm of platinum element based on the weight of component (A), and

(D) 0.0001 to 1 part by weight of at least one compound other than said platinum catalyst (C) selected from the group consisting of indoline, imidazole, indazole, benzoxazole, 2-hydroxybenzoxazole, 5-benzyloxyindole, 1,2-benzisoxazole, 2,1-benzisoxazole, and 1,3-benzodioxole,

wherein components (A) and (B) contain low-molecular-weight cyclic siloxane fractions D_3 to D_{10} in a total amount of up to 1,000 ppm.

Claim 20 (New): The composition of Claim 19, comprising imidazole.

Claim 21 (New): The composition of Claim 19, comprising indazole.

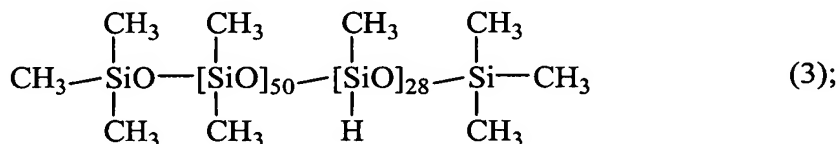
Claim 22 (New): The composition of Claim 19, wherein the organopolysiloxane having at least one alkenyl group in a molecule is capped at both ends of its molecular chain with triorganosiloxy groups.

Claim 23 (New): The composition of Claim 22, wherein the organopolysiloxane is a straight-chain organopolysiloxane.

Claim 24 (New): The composition of Claim 19, wherein the organopolysiloxane is a branched organopolysiloxane.

Claim 25 (New): The composition of Claim 19, comprising:
dimethylpolysiloxane capped with dimethylvinylsiloxy groups at both ends of its molecular chain;

a methylhydrogenpolysiloxane of the following formula (3)



a chloroplatinic acid/vinyl siloxane complex; and
benzoxazole.

Claim 26 (New): A cured transparent and flame retardant composition obtained by curing the composition of Claim 19.

Claim 27 (New): An integrated circuit covered with a flame retardant composition obtained by curing the composition of Claim 19.

Claim 28 (New): The integrated circuit of Claim 27, wherein the cured composition is in the form of a transparent gel or transparent rubbery product.

Claim 29 (New): A flame retardant silicone composition comprising

(A) 100 parts by weight of an organopolysiloxane having at least one alkenyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, in a molecule of the organopolysiloxane, represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R is a lower alkenyl group, R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent hydrocarbon group free of aliphatic unsaturation, "a" is a positive number of 0.0001 to 0.2, "b" is a positive number of 1.7 to 2.2, and the sum of $a + b$ is 1.9 to 2.4,

(B) an organohydrogenpolysiloxane having at least two hydrogen atoms bonded to silicon atoms in a molecule, in an amount to give 0.1 to 5 silicon atom-bonded hydrogen atoms per alkenyl group in component (A),

(C) a platinum catalyst in an amount to give 0.1 to 1,000 ppm of platinum element based on the weight of component (A), and

(D) 0.0001 to 1 part by weight of at least one compound other than said platinum catalyst (C) selected from the group consisting of indoline, indazole, benzoxazole, 2-hydroxybenzoxazole, 5-benzyloxyindole, 1,2-benzisoxazole, 2,1-benzisoxazole, and 1,3-benzodioxole,

wherein components (A) and (B) contain low-molecular-weight cyclic siloxane fractions D_3 to D_{10} in a total amount of up to 1,000 ppm.

Claim 30 (New): A method of improving flame retardance of a silicone rubber or silicone gel cured product comprising the steps of preparing a silicone composition comprising

(A) 100 parts by weight of an organopolysiloxane having at least one alkenyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, in a molecule of the organopolysiloxane, represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R is a lower alkenyl group, R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent hydrocarbon group free of aliphatic unsaturation, "a" is a positive number of 0.0001 to 0.2, "b" is a positive number of 1.7 to 2.2, and the sum of a + b is 1.9 to 2.4,

(B) an organohydrogenpolysiloxane having at least two hydrogen atoms bonded to silicon atoms in a molecule, in an amount to give 0.1 to 5 silicon atom-bonded hydrogen atoms per alkenyl group in component (A),

(C) a platinum catalyst in an amount to give 0.1 to 1,000 ppm of platinum element based on the weight of component (A), and

(D) 0.0001 to 1 part by weight of at least one compound other than said platinum catalyst (C) selected from the group consisting of indoline, imidazole, indazole, benzoxazole, 2-hydroxybenzoxazole, 5-benzyloxyindole, 1,2-benzisoxazole, 2,1-benzisoxazole, and 1,3-benzodioxole,

wherein components (A) and (B) contain low-molecular-weight cyclic siloxane fractions D_3 to D_{10} in a total amount of up to 1,000 ppm, and

curing the resulting composition at room temperature or under heating to provide a silicone rubber or silicone gel cure product with improved flame retardance.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-3 and 6-30 are active in the present application. Claims 4 and 5 are cancelled. Previously presented independent Claim 1 is amended for clarity, e.g., to add clarity to the term "lower alkenyl group". Claim 1 is further amended to remove the species imidazole and indazole from the Markush group of component (D) recited in the claim. Claim 10 is amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 12 is amended in accordance with the amendment to Claim 1. Claims 19-30 are new claims. Support for the new claims is found in the previously presented claims and through out the specification.

No new matter is added.